"Professor-as-a-Service" Group 17 Project

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Problem Statement

The problem at hand is to develop a decentralized digital educational model called "Professor as a Service". The proposed system aims to revolutionize education by putting professors at the center of students' learning, enabling them to own their talent and experience instead of being beholden to educational institutions, while reducing costs, improving accountability, and enhancing the learning experience for students worldwide.

Proposed Solution

Our group proposes to develop a decentralized digital educational platform that puts professors at the center of students' learning. This platform will provide a more accountable, cost-effective, and personalized learning experience for students worldwide. Professors and students will be able to register on the platform and manage their own courses. Professors will have the flexibility to create and customize their courses, set their own fees, and receive direct payments from students. Students will have the ability to register courses, providing valuable feedback for professors to improve the quality of their teaching.

Features and Functionalities

1. Main Register and Login Interface
    a. register new user into platform
    b. login to platform
2. Platform Admin User Interface
    a. manage user accounts
    b. view platform performance data
3. Professor Interface
    a. pay subscription fee to platform
    b. manage course catalog, create courses to their own speciality
    c. manage course price

      d. create course schedule for each term, create and course offers to each term

      e. manage grading for enrolled students

      f. view performance data

4. Student

      a. browse course information from all professor

      b. search for courses by professor name, topic, region, language, etc

      c. select and register for courses

      d. pay tuition for courses

      e. view transcript for all courses

      f. rate professors for courses taken

      g. request to graduate and get degree

5. Certifier

      a. view student transcript

      b. authenticate and grant degree for students who declare to graduate

Design Model

"ArchitectureDiagram_UMLClassDiagram_PaaS.pdf" file in Github repo.

Prototypes

"Flow.pdf" file in Github repo.

Assessment

We believe that the decentralized platform of the "Professor-as-a-Service" is truly exciting. The ability to access courses from experts around the world has the potential to greatly enhance the quality and diversity of education. By allowing professors to operate remotely and manage their own courses, students can access a wider variety of courses from experts around the world.

Additionally, the ability for professors to set their own prices could lead to more affordable education for students who may have previously been priced out of traditional educational institutions.

However, it is important to recognize that there may be challenges to implementing such a platform effectively.

From a technical perspective, students would need to have basic computer and internet skills to access the platform and take courses. They would also need to be comfortable using various digital tools such as browsers, tablets, and smart devices.

From an educational perspective, students would need to have a strong foundation in the subject matter they wish to study, as the platform would likely not provide the same level of structured support and guidance as traditional educational institutions. Additionally, self-motivation and discipline would be important skills for students to possess, as they would be responsible for managing their own course schedules and ensuring they meet the requirements for graduation.

For professors, technical skills would be important for managing their own courses on the platform, as well as potentially marketing and promoting their offerings. They would need to have a strong background and expertise in their subject matter, as well as effective communication and teaching skills to effectively convey that knowledge to students in a remote setting.

Ensuring quality control and certification oversight, as well as ensuring access to the necessary technology in remote and low-income areas, will be important considerations. It will be important to ensure that the platform does not perpetuate existing educational inequalities by further disadvantageing those who may already face barriers to accessing education.

Overall, we believe that a decentralized platform for "Professor-as-a-Service" has the potential to greatly enhance access to education, but it will be important to approach its implementation with a combination of technical proficiency, subject matter expertise, self-motivation, and effective communication and teaching skills in order to ensure its success in creating a more equitable and accessible educational landscape.